



THE USAFA ACADEMY CADET CLINIC PARENTS NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletters ♦ Announcements ♦ Policy Updates ♦ Awards

Hello, and welcome to the USAFA parent's newsletter. I am Colonel Tim Greydanus (USAFA Class of 1981), and the commander of the Cadet/Flight Medicine Clinic. I am a board certified Family Practice physician, and have been fortunate to serve as an active Air Force flight surgeon in a variety of operational settings. I am honored to be serving at USAFA again, especially with the exceptional staff of the Cadet Clinic, caring for some of the best and brightest young people in the country.

On August 6th, our staff joined hundreds of onlookers in congratulating the Class of 2012 at the Acceptance Day Parade. These brand new 4th classmen and women worked very hard to get to this point, and we couldn't help but feel a sense of pride in the role that we had played in helping them to that point. Of course, they did all the hard work!

Our support of these new cadets began back on June 26th, when the Cadet Clinic joined with volunteers from the 10th Medical Group and from the local community to medically inprocess 1356 basic cadets. This critical process, where incoming basics are screened for medical problems that might have developed between their DoDMERB physical and arrival at USAFA, set a record for efficiency and accuracy, and ensured that we did our part to make sure the incoming group of Basic Cadets was medically up for the challenge ahead.

During the first portion of BCT the clinic operated extended hours, standing ready to assist basics as they acclimated to the altitude, and as their feet adjusted to new boots and hours of marching. But nowhere was the Cadet Clinic more involved than during the second portion of BCT. Beginning with the march out to Jack's Valley, the clinic went into 24 hour-a-day deployed operations. We offered medical sick call from 6 in the morning to 6 in the evening, treating roughly 100 basics during each of the 12 days at Jacks. Overnight care was available on-call, and ill basics were able to remain in a nursing tent overnight where they could receive intravenous fluids, medications, and rest. The nurse's tent averaged 3-5 Basic Cadets per night.

And now, as these brand new 4th-degree cadets join the returning upper classman and begin the academic year, the Cadet Clinic returns to normal operations. We are open Monday through Friday from 0700 to 1600. Appointments may be made by calling (719) 333-5180/5181/5183, or through Tricare Online at <http://www.tricareonline.com>. Cadets who are unable to get an appointment as quickly as they feel they need are encouraged to speak with a nurse in the clinic, who will perform an initial assessment and ensure that they receive care appropriate for their condition. The clinic also offers walk-in services between 1000 and 1100, and between 1400 and 1500, for wart treatment, suture removal, wound care, and blood pressure checks. After hours and weekend/holiday care is available at the 10th Medical Groups Acute Care Clinic (ACC). Appointments for the ACC may be made by calling (719) 457-CARE (457-2273).

As parents ourselves, we share your concern with the health of your child, and we know you have an understandable interest in their condition and in the care they are receiving. We will discuss medical information regarding your cadet if we can, but you should know that privacy laws prevent the sharing of health-related information with parties not directly involved in the medical care of the patient. This includes parents. Cadets who wish to provide their parents with access to their healthcare information are encouraged to complete a release of information form. They may authorize a general release of any information or may authorize release of information

limited to certain dates of treatment or limited to certain people such as you, their parents. This release form is available to cadets on the clinic's webpage, or at the Cadet Clinic.

In summary, you can be justifiably proud of the accomplishments of your brand new Cadets. They did very well this summer, and, again, we at the Cadet Clinic are excited and honored to be serving some of the best and brightest of our country's youth, as well as our international cadets.

Further information about the services we provide is available on the Cadet Clinic website <http://www.usafa.edu/10abw/10mdg/cc/index.cfm>.

Also, you can contact me at (719) 333-7800, or timothy.greydanus@usafa.af.mil, or the Cadet Clinic nurse manager, Major Deb Jones at (719) 333-6725, or deborah.jones@usafa.af.mil.